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SUSTAINING

UNCLE SAM'S FOREST RANGERS #117

12:30 - 1:30 PM

AUGUST 31, 1934

FRIDAY

ANNOUNCER: And now - "Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers" -

ORCHESTRA: QUARTET: RANGER SONG

ANNOUNCER: Now we take you to the National Forest where Ranger Jim Robbing and his young assistant, Jerry Quick, are working and protecting your forest resources. Each year more and more people use the National Forests, and in order that these forests may adequately serve the public, improvements of many kinds are necessary. The building of roads, trails, telephone lines, cabins, and other structures is an important part of the Forest Ranger's duties. Because the construction of improvements in remote mountainous forests frequently involves obstacles not met in thickly populated centers, Uncle Sam's Rangers have found it necessary to be extremely resourceful in working out these construction and transportation problems.

This has been a very busy week in the Pine Cone District for Rangers Jim and Jerry. With the aid of the Civilian Conservation Corps and other improvement work crews, the Rangers expect to get some new trails, shelters erected, and campgrounds in the Sawtooth Mountain region. Yesterday Jerry and Slim, the packer, brought a string of pack trails from Windy Creek over the Windy Mountain trail to the Blue Lake Road. They passed here last night, waiting for Jim, who is on his way up with a load of equipment to the Forest Service truck. Rare they are --

JERRY: That looks like the Forest Service truck coming up the road, now, Slim.

SLIM: Sure 'nuff - An we ain't had no breakfast yet --

JERRY: (LAUGHS) Think you'll have to go to work without anything to eat, do you?

SLIM: Well, I know Jim ain't gonna want to hang 'round here very long waitin' on us. (SIZZLE OF TRYING BACON) This aw belly's 'bout done, anyway -

SOUND OF TRUCK RUMBLING CLOSER

JERRY: You pour out the coffee, Slim - and see if you can find some bread to wrap around this bacon - I'll go out to the road and meet Jim --

SLIM: Sure 'nuff - (SINGS A TUNE)

JERRY: (OFF - CALLS) Hi there, Jim -

TRUCK COMES TO A STOP

JIM: (OFF) Well Jerry, are you all set?

JERRY: You bet we're ready, Jim - looks like you have a full truck - how are you?

JIM: Fine as silk. Where's Slim?

JERRY: He's here - right now he's wrestling with the coffee pot.

JIM: Well, I guess we can drive the truck over there - at least I wanta get 'er off this road - hop in, Jerry -

JERRY: You bet. (SOUND OF TRUCK FOR A MOMENT, STOPS)

JIM: There we are. Have any trouble coming over, Jerry?

JERRY: Not a bit, Jim - we've got a balky mule in the outfit, but Slim seems to know how to handle 'er :-

JIM: That's good - 'specially' Slim - Ham - smells pretty good. Slim.

SLIM: 'Specially' to yourself, Jim - sassa cup coffee!

JIM: Sure thing.

SLIM: Gimme that cup, Jerry - here. There y'are, Jim.

JERRY: How about my bacon, Slim?

SLIM: I got it right here.

JIM: Ham - haven't you had breakfast yet?

JERRY: Not yet, Jim. You are, we had to chase one of the milks this morning, and - uh.....

JIM: Well - my Slim, this coffee ain't half bad --

SLIM: Sure. I kin make Java all right.

JERRY: Jim said it ain't half bad? I guess that means it's all bad --

SLIM: Huh? -- Say, that's darn good coffee.

JIM: (CHUCKLING) Anyway Jerry don't seem to have any trouble putting it away --

JIM: No indeed. Well, hurry it along now, boys. As soon as you finish that coffee I wanta begin unloading this truck

JERRY: (WITH MOUTHFUL) Right away, Jim.

JIM: This is going to be a bigger job than you think. Some of this stuff is pretty bulky -

SLIM: 'Laws, I reckon that ole mule me and Jerry drove up here yesterday kin stand some work - 'orvery ole critter --

JIM: (CALLS) Ready, rissna.
 BIKER: Ready is you -
 JIM: Ain't lost, are you?
 BIKER: Hardly - just biking around these parts -
 JIM: Oh - I see - Well you've picked a good section. Old
 Burgess is mighty pretty this time of the year.
 BIKER: Yea, I like it. Say, did you see Forest Ranger Joe with
 his dog?
 JIM: (CHUCKLES) That's the way they're all we know out here.
 BIKER: I thought that was a Forest Service uniform you're wearing -
 do you mind if I make a complaint about your forest?
 JIM: That's on your mind, mister?
 BIKER: Well, I've been riding these mountain roads here for
 the past five years - never realized I got I come to this -
 no bike - or sign -
 JIM: Yea. That's fine - The Park Game District is poor, I think,
 to talk in - or sign in - As long as you have a driving
 license --
 BIKER: So, I got that all right - But there's one more - I think
 you ought to have another trail up to Pine Lake - going
 west from Big Smokey - and some shorter trails -
 JIM: (CHUCKLES) You do, huh? - You must be a good rider.
 BIKER: What do you mean?
 JIM: Well, that's just about what you're doing to do.
 BIKER: Is that right?

JIM: Yes, the improvement plan for this year includes a trail from Bald Mountain Lookout station - that's northwest of Blue Lake -

HIXER: Oh yes, I know -

JIM: Well, the trail will end at Blue Lake. Then we're going to improve the Blue Lake campground and work on the old road from the Lake through Snake Duff's Pass.

HIXER: That's great, but I hope you don't do too much to the Blue Lake campground - it will bring in too many people to fish - what I mean is just some shelter cabins - you see I belong to the Tip Top Mountain Climbing Club -

JIM: Oh you belong to the Tip Toppers, eh? Did you read the letter I sent to the club - last month?

HIXER: No - no, I don't guess I did, Ranger - I've been out of town and didn't get to the last two meetings -

JIM: Well, you know your club wanted us to build a trail along the Sawtooth Range?

HIXER: Sure thing. In fact I was on task committee to petition for the development - wilderness and primitive country in these parts -

JIM: (GRUOKLEB) Then I reckon you'd be interested in knowing what the Forest Service thought about your suggestions.

HIXER: I sure would.

JIM: Well, the Forest Service has added the trail to its improvement plan for this year because besides making this wild high country accessible to bikers it will tie together the trail system on each side of the range --

WIKER: Sounds pretty good --

JIM: The plan includes establishing a couple of ranger cabins, about a day's hike apart - then you fellows can use them as well as us - We rangers have to get over those trails every so often too.

WIKER: Say - I guess I kinda shook you good --

JERRY: (OFF) All ready, Jim --

JIM: I'll be with you in a minute, Jerry - So you bikers are going to find things pretty nice all right, when we get through. The cabins will be put up just below timber line so you fellows can get wood and water --

WIKER: Gosh, Ranger, that's good stuff - makes pretty country up here - and I know lots of people are going to enjoy that new trail.

JIM: Well, we wanted to get some improvements in up there years ago but we didn't have the money. But now with the help of the GOC we're getting quite a few things done.

JERRY: (OFF) Won't be long, Jim!

WIKER: Or pardon me, Ranger - I didn't know your men were waiting on you.

JIM: Well, I guess the boys've got the pack string loaded.

HIERB: Go right ahead, Ranger - and thanks a lot for taking the time to - (LAUGHS) Well listen to me while I get this wind off my cheek --

JIM: Fairly all right sister - we're always glad to listen to anyone who's interested in our Forest - Good luck to you.

HIERB: (GOING OFF) Thanks - love to you

JIM: All right, Jerry - ready to go, eh?

JERRY: Ready and waiting.

SLIM: (CHUCKLES) Sure. I thought that guy was gonna keep talking all day. You hurry us along without nothing but a swallow of breakfast, and then you spend a half an hour talking to that guy.

JIM: (CHUCKLES) Nope, only a couple of minutes, Slim. I reckon we can always take time to talk to folks who are nice to us - Well, let's get on our way, boys - You gonna lead the string, Slim?

SLIM: Yeah (CHUCKS) Come on, mule!

JIM: (CHUCKS) Let 'er go!

FADEOUT WITH SOUND OF HORSES AND MULES BALKING IN TRAIL.

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

FADE IN WITH SOUND OF HORSES ON TRAIL

SLIM: (OFF) She's a ridin' OK so far - Jim --

JERRY: Don't go bellerin' too soon, Slim. We haven't hit the worst part of the trail yet.

JIM: Look at that ole peak up there & imagine in the sun - Jerry, when we get this new trail constructed - it'll be a rider's paradise.

JERRY: Jim, you think like this country in 1937, don't you?
 JIM: (SHRUGS) Well, it - now, I wouldn't trade it for all
 the sky-scrapers and palaces in the world -

PAUSE - SOUND OF HORSES UP

JERRY: (SHRUGS) Well - sold on there, huh? (HORSES STOP) But
 these long boards are not packed on packed so they don't go so
 well on a narrow trail.

JIM: Sure, they don't, better take the lead rope, Jerry.
 That's it.

HORSES START AGAIN

JERRY: Sure, sure - All I gotta say is to be honest, these
 boys are getting a real trail around the country -

JIM: Well, we've got a pretty good trail here to put on the job.

JERRY: Yeah, I know. Well, well, a good one, we've got another
 good job ahead of us, but I don't think we'll be able to

JIM: That's all we had to do, Jerry, and that's the first
 road in there. That's the first road we had to go in.

JERRY: For some time, Jerry -

JIM: Yes - that road was first built during the early days of
 the gold rush -

JERRY: I guess that's right. The road is just about impassable
 now -

JIM: Except for the sheepmen. They make it go over it with
 their camp horses and their horses.

JERRY: (LAUGHS) Two - I don't see how they do it, I wonder how
 some of the old prospectors would have been able to go
 through there. That's the road -

JIM: (CONTINUING) That's the one that's doing the complaining.

JERRY: (LAUGHS) I guess I'm the guy. Against the old timers, it's like we've got a grater or hammer to pass around - oh, it - I hope at that switchback where you're get around?

JIM: Yeah - (HORRIFIED STOP) Yes. That's bad and I'm just been waiting for.

JERRY: That's plenty sharp, all right. If one of the mice gets the end of those boards into the bank there, it'll knock 'em right over the cliff.

JIM: Yep. If we can get the pack string back this place where we're sitting pretty, we'll have to lead the mice around this switchback - the ones that've got the longest snouts. (CALLS) Hold up, Slim -

SLIM: I'll bring the pack of the string up first, Jim.

JIM: All right Slim, bring 'em along. Here, Jerry - you hold this string so the mice's follow.

SLIM: (GROANS) Come up, now - sit along - (SCREAM OF MICE ON BOARD GOING OFF)

JERRY: Now, there, mice - you ain't gonna follow this time.

JIM: (CALLS) All right, Slim.

SLIM: (OFF) Yeah - hold 'em now. (MICE STOP OFF)

JIM: (CALLS) Come back here now, Slim, and lead this animal back up. Jerry, you sit down and steady those boards.

JERRY: You bet. Steady the girl - steady.

JIM: Watch it - not too close the edge, Jerry.

JERRY: Doggone thing I don't want. Hey, that's a drop down that mountain.

1125: Well, now talking to you on, John.
 TERRY: Yeah, right?
 JIM: You got down there and will a people gathered. And you
 were so interested in it --
 1135: That's right, Jim. I thought this is a common good thing --
 and a little more to know.

OFFICIAL INTERVIEW

1145: Well, after a while I'd like to know the story.
 JIM: All right, well, now, John, you're not a bad fellow, are
 you? Well, you know it's not very good, but I'll tell you about
 the situation.
 1155: All right. Now on this.
 JIM: Sure, because.
 JIM: I don't want you to be aggressive.
 JIM: I don't want to say to you that I'm not a good
 1165: All right, Jim, I don't want to say that.
 1175: I don't want to say that I'm not a good fellow.

END OF THE INTERVIEW WITH JOHN STONE, JR.

1185: Say (MURKIN) Good-bye. I'm a writing - I'm a writing
 for you, Jim.
 JIM: Good-bye, Jim.
 JIM: Good-bye, Jim. I'm a writing - I'm a writing
 for you, Jim.
 JIM: Good-bye, Jim. I'm a writing - I'm a writing
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 for you, Jim.

PADEOUT WITH SOUND OF HORSES AND MULES ON TRAIL

ANNOUNCER: Well, a treacherous trail, and a heavy load of lumber and crates and other supplies didn't stop Ranger Jim and Jerry; and we're going to get a new trail built and camping facilities improved in the National Forest. Next week at this time we shall again visit the Pine Cone District again. This program is a presentation of the National Broadcasting Company, with the cooperation of the United States Forest Service.

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